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ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
REGISTER-REPUBLIC

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Date: FEB 23 1965

Soviets Run Schools for Spies

Red Agents Well-Trained

Although shrouded in secrecy, American spy activities occasionally break into the light of publicity, but what about the Soviet spy system?

According to H. Montgomery Hyde, an author who is a former member of Parliament and once served in British Intelligence, the Soviet Union relies on two main intelligence agencies, the Committee for State Security (KGB) and the Intelligence Administration (GRU).

Although it has a foreign intelligence branch, the KGB is chiefly concerned with the Soviet Union's internal security. It includes the Soviet Secret Police, the MVD.

The main agency of foreign intelligence is the GRU, a division of the Soviet Defense Ministry.

It handles the whole range of clandestine gathering of information, from the recruiting of spies to the direction and analysis of their work.

Hyde claims the GRU has gone into spying in a typically thorough Communist manner. He quotes Anatoli Granovsky, a Soviet spy who defected to the West and described the Russian espionage setup in detail.

According to Granovsky, potential spies in the Soviet Union must survive a grueling 10 years of training to be truly proficient in their craft.

Potential spies are singled out at an early age by the state from families of solid Communist background. Only the most

intelligent, physically fit and apt youngsters are chosen.

They are sent first to the Marx - Engels School at Gorki for a thorough grounding in Communist ideology and severe physical conditioning. The activities of the school are closely guarded and the youngsters do not yet know they are being trained for espionage.

This is revealed to them if they successfully complete the four - month course and move on to another school where they are taught judo, the use of firearms and explosives, sabotage, lock-picking, the use of drugs and poisons and the other intricacies of spying.

The next stop after a year at this school is the Secret Service headquarters in Moscow where they undergo such grueling tests as brain-washing and the physical "third degree." Here it is decided whether they will enter the KGB or GRU.

They next move to one of five schools which specialize in training for spy work in specific countries. They learn languages as well as the natives, including dialects, in backgrounds which perfectly simulate the foreign country they will be assigned to. Defectors and exiles are their teachers.

Along the route in spy school, students are also trained in immoralities that will enable them to entrap weak individuals for blackmail purposes, according to Hyde. He quotes a report by the British government on the defection of a former employee,

John Vassall: "The manufacture of compromising situations... must be regarded as one of the regular instruments by which the Russian Secret Service seeks to suborn and enlist British agents."

Granovsky verified this.

After completion of his training, the Soviet spy is supplied with a new identity and false documents and enters the country in which he is to work.

The agent then attempts to enlist nationals, usually four, to form a "cell." Most often, he is the only professional spy in the cell.

The Soviets spend a great deal of money on their spy apparatus and it has a vast range.

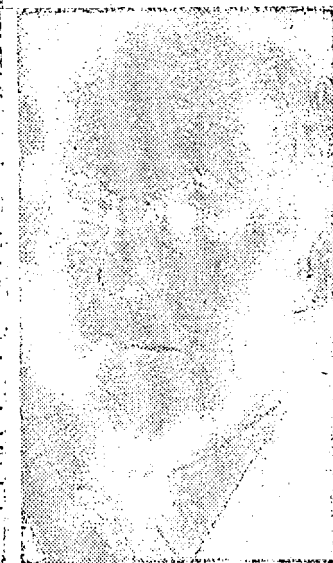
A recent defector, a Soviet diplomat, observed: "No Soviet citizen ever leaves the borders of the USSR in a private capacity. There are no Soviet tourists."

However, the Russians have taken their share of falls on the international merry-go-round of espionage, and Allen Dulles, former head of the CIA, cites as the main reason that the Russians "pick the wrong agents. They misjudge character. They underestimate the power of courage and honesty."

Dulles claims the Soviets are successful in espionage only because of the tremendous time, money and sacrifice they are willing to put into it, but overall he believes the Red spy system is "overconfident, overcomplicated and overestimated."



Walter Bedell Smith



Allen Dulles



John McCone